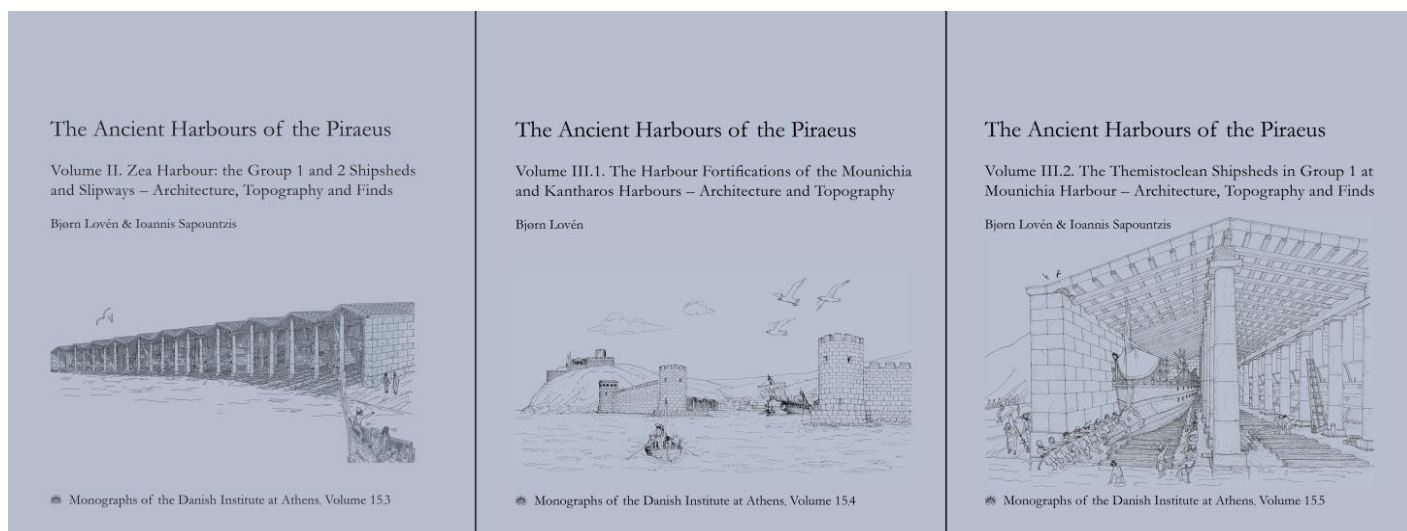


The Ancient Harbours of the Piraeus vol. II & III

By Bjørn Lovén

Thursday 12.01.2023 - 19:00 @The Danish Institute at Athens



In this lecture Dr. Bjørn Lovén will present an overview of new evidence of late Archaic to early Classical period harbour fortifications and shipsheds at the Athenian naval bases of Kantharos (located in the main harbour of Piraeus) and Mounichia (modern Mikrolimano) published in Volume III.1–2. Shipshed 1 in the northern side of Mounichia represents the earliest securely dated building in the Athenian naval bases in the Piraeus, and the earliest identifiable trireme shipshed found in the ancient world. Furthermore, the lecture will discuss a building phase in the monumental harbour fortifications at Mounichia in all probability also associated with the Themistoclean building program. Finally, the author will touch on a group of twenty-two shipsheds excavated in the eastern side of Zea harbour. This massive naval complex, which in the 4th century BC covered between 11,630 m² and 11,989 m² is published in Volume II; together seven wide, unroofed slipways found in the south-eastern side of Zea. These structures represent a building type previously unknown in the Piraeus, probably designed for a larger warship known as the *penteres* ('five'), introduced into the Athenian navy between 329/8 BC and 326/5 BC.

The Zea Harbour Project operates under the auspices of the Danish Institute at Athens and is directed by Dr. Bjørn Lovén. The project is supervised by the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities and Ephorate of Antiquities of Piraeus and the Islands. The Carlsberg Foundation has been the project's principal sponsor since 2004.

Senior Researcher Dr. Bjørn Lovén is a Classical Archaeologist and Underwater Archaeologist educated from Aarhus University (Denmark) and University of London (UK). Dr. Lovén is specialized in ancient harbours and has a preference for hard-edged Late Archaic and Classical Period monumental architecture. Outside Greece he has worked on land, submerged sites and shipwrecks in Denmark, Italy, Albania, Georgia, and Turkey. Director of the Zea Harbour Project (2001–) and the Co-director of the Lechaion Harbour Project (2013–); He is currently working under the Danish Institute at Athens.

